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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

~~TOP SECRET~~ CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Czechoslovak Party of the Middle

INFO. [REDACTED]

DST. 22 April 1947

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

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ORIGIN [REDACTED]

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1. The Czechoslovak Party of the Middle was founded in the summer of 1946 by a Czech emigre, Dr. Jan Pecháček. Its objective was to unite all Czechs in Germany, particularly those of the middle class, into one strong anti-Communist organization. From the beginning, it had the approval and blessings of General Lev Prchala, head of the Czech National Committee in London, and excellent relations existed between him and Dr. Pecháček. Although General Prchala exerted no direct leadership over the Party and its program, his counsel was sought on planning and usually followed in matters of policy and organization. Dr. Pecháček was also reported to have been in touch with prominent Czech emigres in other countries.
2. Dr. Pecháček, a former Prague lawyer who had spent six years in German concentration camps, was living in Bavaria until mid-January 1947. About 16 January, he disappeared under mysterious circumstances. It is said that at that time a Czech army officer was in Munich trying to locate Dr. Pecháček. With the aid of several men in German police uniforms, he had Dr. Pecháček arrested and turned over to his custody, and is reported to have returned with him to Czechoslovakia.
3. Up to the time of Dr. Pecháček's disappearance, the organization of the party had barely progressed beyond the planning stages. A party newspaper, in leaflet form, had been established, and application blanks to be filled out by prospective members had been distributed. No committees or boards had been elected, however, but preparations for this action had been made. Although the formation of the party had advanced very slowly, it had received considerable publicity among Czech emigres in Germany, who regarded it with much enthusiasm and interest. Since Pecháček's abduction, however, the Party has for all practical purposes ceased to exist, and the Czech emigres, who had looked towards the party as a means of uniting their forces, are now as disorganized as ever.
4. Two of Dr. Pecháček's more active collaborators in organizing the Czech Party of the Middle were:
 - a. Josef Grosblum, who lived with his family in Eisenstein near the Czech border (N50/1).
 - b. Dr. Emanuel Lipensky, a lawyer, born on 24 December 1906 in Prague. In 1930 he was appointed to the District Court of Bratislava, and

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the following year he became judge of the District Court of Tabor in Bohemia. This position he held until 1943, when the Germans dismissed him because of his nationalist views, and he was employed as an office clerk by the Municipality of Tabor. Before the war, Lipansky was a member of the National Socialist Party, and in 1940 he was elected to the National Council for the district of Tabor. He is reported to have worked with the Czech underground movement during the war. Since he expected Czechoslovakia to be liberated and occupied by the Americans, he wrote several newspaper articles against Communism; he was arrested shortly after the arrival of the Soviet Army in Prague. Although he was later released, he was still persecuted by the Russians. In order to avoid being arrested again, he fled to Germany on 3 October 1946. Dr. Lipansky is reported to have good relations with important political officials in Czechoslovakia and with prominent Czech emigres. He was a member of the Free Mason Lodge Pravda Vitezzi in Prague. He speaks excellent German and French and has a fair knowledge of English.

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